

Please REPLACE the paragraph on lines 6-13 on page 20 with the following paragraph:

a3 --- Fig. 1 shows a relaying apparatus for use in a network system according to a first embodiment of the present invention. As shown in this figure, a client terminal 100, client-side DNS device 110, a DNS responding device 120, path load measuring devices 130a and 130b, server terminals, 140a and 140b are connected to a network (such as the Internet) including a plurality of routers not shown herein, and are accessible discretely.---

Please REPLACE the paragraph on lines 11-20 on page 47 with the following paragraph:

a4 --- Fig. 7 is a block diagram showing configuration of a relaying apparatus for use in a network system according to a fourth embodiment of the present invention. In this figure, the same reference numerals are assigned to components corresponding to those in Fig. 4, and detailed description thereof is omitted herein. In Fig. 7, in place of the DNS responding device 300, path load measuring device 400a, and path load measuring device 400b, a DNS responding device 600, path load measuring device 700a, and path load measuring device 700b are respectively provided.---

Please REPLACE the paragraph on lines 14-21 on page 54 with the following paragraph:

a5 --- Operations of the relaying apparatus for use in a network system according to the fourth embodiment are explained with reference to the flow chart shown in Fig. 8. It is assumed in the following description that information indicating occurrence of a DNS inquiry from the client terminal 100 to the DNS responding device 600 in the past, namely an IP address of the client terminal 100 is already stored as DNS inquiry log in the storing section 170 shown in Fig. 8.---

Please REPLACE the paragraph on lines 19-23 on page 55 with the following paragraph:

96 --- The path load measuring device 700a also measures the path load (effective band width) in a communication path with the client terminal 100, and the result of is transmitted to the path load measurement request information preparing section 620.---

Please REPLACE the paragraph on line 22 of page 59 through line 5 of page 60 with the following paragraph:

97 --- As described above, with the relaying apparatus for use in a network system according to the fourth embodiment, a primary destination of routing a service request is selected according to a reference of a path load reflecting the actual situation and an operating state, and then either one of the server terminal 500a to server terminal 500d is selected taking into account the operating state in secondary routing. Therefore, distribution of a work load among a plurality of server terminals can be executed in the-optimal state.---

Please REPLACE the paragraph on lines 6-11 on page 60 with the following paragraph:

98 --- Relaying apparatuses each for use in a network system according to first to fourth embodiments of the present invention are explained above. However, the configuration of the present invention is not limited to these embodiments. Design changes within a gist of the present invention can be included in the present invention.---

Please REPLACE the paragraph on lines 12-16 on page 60 with the following paragraph:

99 --- For instance, in the relaying apparatuses for use in the network system according to first to fourth embodiments described above, a server terminal as an object for accessing indicates all databases, which users want to access, and all server computers on the network providing the Web service.---

Please REPLACE the paragraph on lines 17-21 on page 60 with the following paragraph:

9/10 --- In the relaying apparatuses each for use in a network system according to first to fourth embodiments described above, terminals inquiring DNS include, in addition to the client terminal 100, DNS servers (Fig. 1: client-side DNS device 110) provided in the vicinity of the client terminal 100.---

Please REPLACE the paragraph on line 22 of page 60 through line 1 of page 61 with the following paragraph:

9/11 --- Further in the relaying apparatuses for use in a network system according to first to fourth embodiments described above, routing may be carried out taking into account, in addition to the effective band width, a combination of other parameters such as round-trip time, number of hops, or the like as path load.---

IN THE CLAIMS:

Sub 2. Please AMEND claim 2 to read as follows:

2. (ONCE AMENDED) The relaying apparatus for use in a network system according to Claim 1 further comprises a storing unit which stores a route load measured at a pre-specified time interval by each of said route load measuring units up to said one client terminal; and

when a request for service is received from said one client terminal, said selecting unit selects said one server terminal out of said server terminals as a destination of the request for service from said one client terminal based on the route load stored in the storing unit. //

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

FIG. 9 was objected to as requiring a ---Prior Art--- legend.

The specification was objected to due to a plurality of typographical errors.

Claim 2 was objected to due to a typographical error.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,128,657 (Okanoya et al.).